

CUYAHOGA FALLS CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting

April 26, 2021

Call to Order: Mr. Brillhart at 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call: Mr. Balthis, present; Mr. Brillhart, present; Mr. Gorbach, present; Mr. Iula, present; Mr. James, present; Ms. Loza, present; Mr. Miller, present; Ms. Nichols-Rhodes, present; Mrs. Penta, present; Mrs. Spinner, present; Mr. Stams, present.

Invocation: Mrs. Spinner

Pledge of Allegiance: Mr. Miller

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the April 12, 2021 Council Meeting were approved as written.

Reports and Communications: A Notice from the Ohio Division of Liquor Control regarding New Permit Number 6511951 to Owen Real Estate Services, LLC, dba Not Napa Wine, 1st Floor and Basement, 1884 Front Street, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, 44221.

Council recessed into a Public Affairs Committee meeting at 6:38 p.m. and reconvened at 6:41 p.m.

New Legislation

(First Reading)

Temp. Ord. B-21 (Planning & Zoning)

An ordinance accepting the Planning Commission recommendation for the demolition of an existing boat repair building and construction of a 14,500 sq. ft. addition to an existing boat storage building to accommodate the repair operations of Buckeye Sports Center at 4610 State Rd., and declaring an emergency.

Temp. Ord. B-22 (Planning & Zoning)

An ordinance authorizing and approving the Preliminary Subdivision Plat for Princeton Place on Parcel Numbers 35-00517 and 35-00402, and declaring an emergency.

Temp. Ord. B-23 (Finance)

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Service to enter into a contract or contracts, without competitive bidding, for the stabilization of Akron-Peninsula Road in the City of Cuyahoga Falls, and declaring an emergency.

Temp. Ord. B-24 (Finance)

An ordinance authorizing the Mayor or his designee to enter into an agreement with the Ohio Rail Development Commission and CSX Transportation for grade crossing warning device improvements and implementation of a 4 quadrant light and gate system quiet zone at the Bailey Road/CSX railroad crossing, and declaring an emergency.

Temp. Ord. B-25 (Finance)

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Service to enter into a modification of Contract No. 8100 with Quality Control Inspection, Inc., and declaring an emergency.

Temp. Ord. B-26 (Finance)

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Service to enter into a modification of Contract No. 8076 with Lake Erie Construction Company, and declaring an emergency.

Temp. Ord. B-27 (Finance)

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Service to enter into a contract or contracts, according to law, for the demolition of structures located on 3427 Wyoga Lake Road within the city, and removal of demolition debris, and certifying the cost thereof to the County Fiscal Officer for collection in the manner provided by law, and declaring an emergency.

Temp. Ord. B-28 (Public Improvements)

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Public service to enter into a contract or contracts, according to law, for the repair and resurfacing of Chestnut Boulevard from State Road to 2nd Street, and declaring an emergency.

Temp. Ord. B-29 (Community Development)

An ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Community Reinvestment Area Agreement with Harbor Castings, Inc., and declaring an emergency.

Temp. Ord. B-30 (Community Development)

An ordinance approving and authorizing the Mayor to execute a Community Development Block Grant agreement with R2K Contracting, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$67,921.00, and declaring an emergency.

Reports of Council's Standing Committees
(Third Reading)

Planning & Zoning

Temp. Ord. B-14

An ordinance authorizing and approving the Final Subdivision Plat and Improvement Plans for the Ledges of Pine Ridge on Parcel 37-00221 also known as 5008 State Rd., and declaring an emergency.

Mrs. Spinner moved to adopt Temp. Ord. B-14, second by Mr. James. Motion passed, voice vote (11-0).

Finance & Appropriations:

No Report.

Public Improvements:

Temp. Ord. B-16

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Service to enter into a contract or contracts, according to law, for the Mud Brook Greenway Trail Phase I, and declaring an emergency.

Ms. Nichols-Rhodes moved to adopt Temp. Ord. B-16, second by Mr. Stams. Motion passed, voice vote (11-0).

Temp. Ord. B-17

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Service to enter into a contract or contracts, according to law, for the removal of rust and loose paint and to repaint the steel framework at Substations 3 and 7, and declaring an emergency.

Ms. Nichols-Rhodes moved to adopt Temp. Ord. B-17, second by Mr. Iula. Motion passed, voice vote (11-0).

Public Affairs:

Temp. Ord. B-18

An ordinance amending the Traffic Control File by providing for installation of various traffic control devices, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Balthis moved to adopt Temp. Ord. B-18, second by Mr. Miller. Motion passed, voice vote (11-0).

Temp. Res. B-19

A resolution supporting the Mayor’s submission of an application to the Federal House Appropriations Committee for Federal Fiscal Year 2022 Community Projects to repair the Downtown Cuyahoga Falls Riverfront Boardwalk and complete the Gorge Terrace Street Transformation Project, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Balthis moved to amend Temp. Res. B-19, second by Ms. Loza. Motion passed, voice vote (11-0).

Temp. Res. B-19 (Sub. Dated 4/26/21)

A resolution supporting the Mayor’s submission of an application to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure for Federal fiscal year 2022 surface transportation projects to complete the Gorge Terrace Street Transformation Project, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Balthis moved to Temp. Res. B-19 (Sub. Dated 4/26/21), second by Ms. Loza. Motion passed, voice vote (11-0).

Community Development:

Temp. Ord. B-20

An ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Grant Agreement with the Ohio Development Services Agency for the Abandoned Gas Station Cleanup Grant Program in an amount not to exceed \$250,000.00 for the real property known as 1704 S. Front Street (Parcel 02-04691), Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44221, and to make the necessary appropriations for the same, and declaring an emergency.

Mrs. Penta moved to adopt Temp. Ord. B-20, second by Mr. Miller. Motion passed, voice vote (11-0).

Schedule of Committee Meetings

Planning & Zoning:	May 3, 2021, at 6:30 p.m.
Finance:	May 3, 2021, at 6:35 p.m.
Public Improvements:	May 3, 2021, at 6:40 p.m.
Public Affairs:	Subject to Call.
Community Development:	May 3, 2021, at 6:45 p.m.

Miscellaneous Business

Ms. Diana Colavecchio, Community Development Director, stated that on Monday, May 3, at noon, there will be a ground-breaking ceremony for Summit DD. The parking lot is already under

construction. The last house cannot be demolished until May 7th, because the tenant has possession until May 6. The next big project will be the opening of the Farmer's Rail, which is slated to be open by June 1st. There have been some inquiries about the old Levinson's sign. That sign is going to be renovated and restored and is going to stay. The Farmer's Rail will put up its own signage. The upstairs of that building has been leased to a tenant who will be relocating from Hudson, Thomas Thor Associates. They conduct search and human resource services for Nuclear and other complex regulated industries.

Ms. Colavecchio stated that the quarterly report was sent out a couple weeks ago. She will have an updated report probably the first of June. They have had their first meeting with Farr Associates, who is handling the Master Plan for the Merriman Valley and they will continue to meet with them every two weeks on Wednesday afternoon. They have slated the entire week of August 16th for the charrette and public engagement for the plan. The location is to be determined.

Mr. Brillhart stated that it is refreshing to hear of all the improvements and the construction going on in the city. Ms. Colavecchio has done a fabulous job and it is appreciated.

Mr. Bryan Hoffman, Finance Director, stated that there are a couple items to review on Report 21 sent to Council earlier today. The Federal stimulus and the projects that Ms. Colavecchio and the Community Development Department have been doing is working in the city. Cuyahoga Falls is doing better than most through the month of March and continuing through the month of April. In the General Fund, under the Revenue section, the City did receive its settlement for property taxes. They are not reflected in amount shown on page one. The amount that is on page one is an advancement amount from the County Fiscal Office received on a monthly basis. In April of each year, the City gets a final settlement. The City's settlement came in above budget for the first half. The second half settlement is normally received around September. They are anticipating above-budget numbers as they close out 2021 in that property tax line item.

Mr. Hoffman stated that local government funds have been coming in a little better than anticipated through March of this year. They are approximately \$5,000 over last year at this point in time. Income tax has been strong in the city through three months. The State pushed the income tax deadline to May 17th this year. Given that they tend to see some volatility in income tax numbers on an individual basis in the months leading up to the filing deadline, they are waiting for the deadline to get the individual numbers.

Mr. Hoffman stated that, in the Leisure Time Fund, the Natatorium is still down in comparison to 2020 and previous years. They are hopeful that, as more and more vaccines become available to the people who want them, the Natatorium will start to get back on track and hopefully its membership will grow. The outdoor facilities' numbers in Report 21 are strong compared to 2020. Last year, those facilities were closed for a period of time, so hopefully those numbers will start to normalize throughout the summer. The numbers for Waterworks and the golf course and Downview have been strong compared to past years. In the Self-Insurance Fund, they have had a good month with claim activity, but are going to start to see claim activity increase as the year goes on and employees and individuals will be having elective surgeries. Compared to 2020, the fund is down a little over \$300,000 in total expenses.

Mr. James moved to adjourn, second by Mr. Iula. Motion passed, voice vote (11-0). Meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

Michael Brillhart, Council President

Dana M. Capriulo, Clerk of Council